

HECB budget proposals would maintain base funding, support modest new investments

The Higher Education Coordinating Board's budget recommendations for the 2009-11 biennium underscore the critical importance of higher education to Washington families and the future of the state's economy.

The recommendations urge state policymakers to "do no harm" to the existing quality of education at the state's colleges and universities, and to support modest new investments that advance the goals of the state's Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education. [Read more](#)
[See budget report](#)

Board adopts principles to guide budget talks

The HECB has adopted a set of principles for the Governor and Legislature to consider as they make decisions on the 2009-11 budget.

The principles, developed in consultation with the state's public colleges and universities, ask the policymakers to: 1) fully fund carry-forward budgets to maintain quality; 2) provide full funding for any new enrollments or enhancements; 3) limit tuition increases to those allowed by current law and policy; and 4) provide State Need Grant funding sufficient to offset any tuition increases. [Read more](#)

New approach proposed for UW North

A consultant who has been meeting with community leaders in Snohomish, Skagit and Island counties seeking consensus on a site for a UW North branch campus, told the Board he doubts an agreement is near.

Bill Wilkerson, a former state agency director who led negotiations on a state salmon recovery plan, told the Board there is strong support for a UW North branch campus in the region, "which is a good thing."

Wilkerson said a report he is preparing for the HECB will recommend passing authorizing legislation for the new campus as was done for the UW Tacoma branch campus. The report will be sent to the Legislature this month.

Freshmen boost branch campus enrollment

The number of freshman and sophomores enrolled at the state's four branch campuses grew from 788 to 1,788 between fall 2006 and 2008, according to a report prepared for the Legislature this fall by the HECB's Office of Academic Affairs.

The number of juniors and seniors enrolled in new bachelor of applied science degree programs in seven community and technical colleges increased, from 90 in 2007 to 144 this fall.

Eastern and Western Washington Universities also are conducting new degree programs at Pierce College, Clark College, and Edmonds Community College. In addition, enrollment is rising at the University Center of North Puget Sound in Everett. The report contains estimates of these enrollments. [Read more.](#)

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**A report on the
Nov. 20-21, 2008
Board Meeting
in Seatac**

**Board approves
master plan
implementation
strategy, Page 2.**



[Board applauds retiring
CWU President Jerilyn
McIntyre for outstanding
service to higher
education](#)

[HECB study recommends
two higher education
centers for Kitsap region](#)

[Governor orders
additional steps to close
out current biennium in
the black](#)

10-year action plan

Investing in education will speed state's economic recovery, build a stronger society

Months of work has culminated in a 10-year action plan for higher education that will help more citizens achieve educational goals and produce the kind of skilled workers the state's economy needs now and in the years to come. The Higher Education Coordinating Board adopted the action plan and timetable for implementing the 2008 Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education at its meeting Nov. 21 in Seatac.

The action plan identifies four key priorities:

1. **Preserve the progress we have made** by sustaining current levels of support for higher education.
2. **Build a larger "pipeline"** to postsecondary education that captures more students graduating from our K-12 schools and more working adults.
3. **Expand on demand** by targeting growth and tailoring institutional plans to respond to known demographic, regional and workforce needs.
4. **Redesign the delivery system for higher education** by creating a new process to determine when and where to build new campuses or centers, develop new programs, expand eLearning and other delivery modes, and change college and university missions.

The timetable included with the action plan calls for efforts in the near term to maintain existing investments and increase the number of under-represented students and working adults who are prepared to achieve goals in higher education. [Read more](#)

Executive Director's Report

Ann Daley, HECB executive director, reported on recent activity at the Board meeting in Seatac on Nov. 21, 2008.

- **Basic Education Task Force continues meetings.** A joint task force is reviewing several proposals to create a new definition of basic education that would drive K-12 funding. The work is of strong interest to the HECB because master plan goals for higher education depend on cooperative efforts with the K-12 sector.
- **HECB complies with Governor's belt tightening request.** The HECB has complied with the Governor's recent request to freeze hiring, curtail out-of-state travel, and take other steps in response to the current state budget crisis.
- **GET Committee monitors investment picture.** The Guaranteed Education Tuition (GET) committee is carefully monitoring the program's investments in light of the recent downturn in the financial markets. Investing in GET locks in future tuition costs at today's rates. The future-tuition guarantee is backed by the state, which ensures the fund's stability, regardless of market conditions.

WASHINGTON HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD



[Board approves resolution updating rules for degree-granting institutions.](#)

[Board adopts 2009 meeting schedule.](#)

The HECB plans to hold some joint sessions next year – with the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and with the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board. The Board also will save money by compressing agendas into a single day.

Mark your calendars:
[The HECB will hold its next board meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 17](#)

9 am -12 noon
HECB & Advisory Council

1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Regular Meeting

S. Seattle Community College
- Georgetown Campus -
6737 Corson Ave S., Seattle

Check back after Dec. 11,
for agenda items at:
www.hecb.wa.gov/boardmtgs/index.asp